

every facet of our society helping, the Government, private, everybody getting involved to help as best we can. And it's a two-way street. I think Bolivia has been very cooperative with the United States. We've got a couple of sticking points here that we'll talk about. But I think generally speaking it's going quite well, and we salute the President for his efforts. He is a dedicated leader who is trying to whip a tough prob-

lem. And we know that, and we respect that. So he's welcome here, and we're glad to have the whole team with us.

Thank you all very much.

Note: The exchange began at 5:05 p.m. at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel. Part of this exchange could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

Remarks at the State Dinner for Drug Summit Participants in San Antonio

February 26, 1992

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: Barbara and I are honored to have you join us here tonight. It is a particular pleasure to welcome to the United States our good friends and our neighbors from Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Venezuela. I am delighted that we've gathered in my home State, Secretary Baker's home State of Texas, with our Governor here, the Mayor of this city here, in this gracious city of San Antonio. For centuries, San Antonio has stood as an important cultural crossroads of the Americas.

We meet at a time of great hope for all the people of the Americas. In almost every nation in the hemisphere, people enjoy self-government and respect for human rights. We're making steady progress to improve our people's quality of life through more open trade and investment, by creating more jobs. That's why I am committed more strongly than ever to completing the North American free trade agreement linking the economies of Mexico, Canada, and the United States. And building upon that, we will realize the vision I call the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative for robust trade and investment from the Arctic Ocean to the Straits of Magellan.

During our meetings this week in San Antonio, we will refine and intensify our common efforts against the menace of drugs. Each of our nations is making progress. Bolivia has successfully intensified its law enforcement efforts against cocaine traffickers.

Peru has taken important steps to control airstrips used by traffickers to move cocaine to Colombia. Ecuador is moving against money launderers and traffickers on its territory. Colombia has jailed some of its most violent drug traffickers and is seizing record quantities of drugs. Venezuela is clamping down on those attempting to use its territory to ship drugs to Europe and America. Mexico has reduced cultivation of both opium poppies and marijuana by unprecedented amounts while seizing record amounts of cocaine through Operation Halcion.

For each of our nations, the battle against drugs is truly a war. The ultimate stakes are the same: the minds, bodies, and the souls of our young people, so many of whom have been hurt or destroyed by the violent world of the drug dealers. In the United States, we're stepping up treatment, prevention, and research programs, and we're toughening our prosecution and punishment of drug kingpins.

We're seeing results on the demand side as well. In the United States over the past 6 years, we've reduced the number of regular users of cocaine by two-thirds. Adolescent use of all types of illegal drugs is down. The number of high school seniors using illegal drugs is the lowest since we began measuring their drug use.

We must do more. Drug abuse and drug violence, particularly in our inner cities, threaten to destroy our children and every-

thing else we hold dear. At risk is the civilization we share, our common inheritance, and our common future.

So, let us renew our resolve. Let us strengthen our commitment to guarantee all people drug-free communities. And as we work to advance the quality of life in our own hemisphere in so many ways, let us win a lasting victory in the war against drugs.

And once again, a warm welcome to San Antonio, Texas. And may God bless you and all the peoples of the Americas. And may I raise a glass in honor of our distinguished guests and the important mission that all of us share.

Note: The President spoke at 8:01 p.m. at the Majestic Theater.

Nomination of Joseph Gerard Sullivan To Be United States Ambassador to Nicaragua

February 26, 1992

The President today announced his intention to nominate Joseph Gerard Sullivan, of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Nicaragua. He would succeed Harry W. Shlaudeman.

Mr. Sullivan has served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, DC, 1989–1991. Prior to this,

he served as Director of the Office of Central American Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, 1988–1989. Mr. Sullivan served at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel, as Political Counselor, 1987–1988; and as a political officer, 1984–1987.

Mr. Sullivan graduated from Tufts University (B.A., 1966) and Georgetown University (M.A., 1969). He was born August 9, 1944, in Boston, MA. Mr. Sullivan resides in Oakton, VA.

Presidential Determination No. 92–17—Memorandum on Counternarcotics Assistance for Mexico

February 26, 1992

Memorandum for the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense

Subject: Drawdown from Department of Defense Stocks for Counternarcotics Assistance for Mexico

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 506(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2318(a)(2) (the “Act”), I hereby determine that it is in the national interest of the United States to draw down defense articles from the stocks of the Department of Defense and defense services of the Depart-

ment of Defense for the purpose of providing counternarcotics assistance to Mexico.

Therefore, I hereby direct the drawdown of up to \$26 million of such defense articles from the stocks of the Department of Defense and defense services of the Department of Defense, for the purposes and under the authorities of Chapter 8 of Part I of the Act.

The Secretary of State is authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication